

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 and 10-14 are pending in this application, Claims 7-9 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, Claims 10-14 having been added, and Claims 1-6 having been amended by the present Amendment. Support for amended Claims 1-6 and new Claims 10-14 can be found, for example, in the original claims, drawings, and specification as originally filed.¹ Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, the claims were objected to due to informalities, and Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Kokado et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0018713; hereinafter "Kokado").

In response to the objection to Claims 1 and 7-9, Applicants have amended the claims in accordance with the suggestions set forth in the outstanding Office Action.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to Claims 1 and 7-9 be withdrawn.

In response to the rejection of Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, Claim 9 has been cancelled, rendering the rejection moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 be withdrawn.

In response to the rejection of Claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Kokado, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent Claim 1 recites novel features clearly not taught nor rendered obvious by the applied reference.

Amended independent Claim 1 is directed to an information processing device including, *inter alia*:

...transmitting means for transmitting said schedule
generated by said generating means to said other device; and

¹ See original Claims 1-9, and Figures 23 and 27-30.

distributing means for distributing said contents to said other device according to a request according to said schedule....

Kokado describes a system for data transmission from a server to a data circuit terminating equipment connected to a data terminal equipment.² However, Kokado fails to teach or suggest transmitting means for transmitting said schedule generated by said generating means to said other device, and distributing means for distributing said contents to said other device according to a request according to said schedule, as recited in Applicants' amended independent Claim 1.

Page 4 of the outstanding Office Action states that paragraphs [0079], [0081], and [0109] of Kokado describe "distributing means for distributing said contents according to said schedule generated by said generating means,...." However, paragraph [0079] merely describes that a data terminal equipment 1 generates a content reservation request RS_{TR} (as shown in Figure 13), the content reservation request RS_{TR} carries an identifier ID_{CD} and a time limit LT instead of a download condition number N_{DL}. Kokado does not describe distributing means for distributing said contents to *an other device according to a request according to a schedule*. Kokado also does not describe that the schedule is generated by a generating means for generating a schedule for distributing contents identified by at least one of a second ID to an other device corresponding to the received at least one of said first IDs by a receiving means.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claim 1 (and all claims depending thereon) patentably distinguishes over the cited reference.

Amended independent Claim 2 is directed to an information processing device including *inter alia*:

...user ID managing means for managing a user ID corresponding to at least one of said first IDs;

² See Kokado at paragraph [0002].

supplying means for supplying at least one of said second IDs managed by said second managing means to a communication device making a request for distribution of said contents;

receiving means for receiving said user ID and said at least one of said second IDs from said communication device;

identifying means for identifying said at least one of said first IDs corresponding to said user ID received by said receiving means;

generating means for generating a schedule for distributing said contents identified by said at least one of said second IDs to said other device corresponding to said identified at least one of said first IDs in the event that said at least one of said first IDs has been identified by said identifying means; and

distributing means for distributing said contents to said other device according to said schedule generated by generating means.

An advantageous feature of a non-limiting embodiment of Applicants' amended independent Claim 2 is that a user can perform processing for the purchase of content data through a first device, and then the purchased content data can be downloaded to a second device. Thus, for example, the user can perform processing for purchasing content data when away from their home such that the desired content data is downloaded to the device at the home of the user, thereby increasing the ways in which a user can obtain the desired content data.³

Claim 2 recites "distributing means for distributing said contents to said other device according to said schedule generated by generating means," and is believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. Claim 2 is further believed to be patentable for the reasons discussed hereinafter.

In the rejection of Claim 1, page 4 of the outstanding Office Action cites paragraphs [0074]-[0081] of Kokado as describing "supplying means for supplying said second ID managed by said second managing means to said other device upon said other device making

³ See paragraph [0268] of the specification.

a request for distribution of said contents.” However, Kokado only describes that content reservation status data D_{RS} is forwarded from a processing unit 61 to a circuit interface 62 to be converted into a format suitable for a first communications circuit 4.⁴ The processing unit 61 does not supply a second ID managed by a second managing means to an other device upon said other device making a request for distribution of said contents.

Further, Kokado does not describe user ID managing means for managing a user ID corresponding to at least one of the first IDs, and supplying means for supplying at least one of the second IDs managed by the second managing means to a communication device making a request for distribution of the contents. Kokado also does not describe receiving means for receiving the user ID and the at least one of the second IDs from the communication device, and identifying means for identifying the at least one of the first IDs corresponding to the user ID received by the receiving means.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent Claim 2 (and all claims depending thereon) patentably distinguishes over the cited reference.

Claim 3 is directed to an information processing device:

...wherein said user ID managing means manages the user ID corresponding to at least two said first IDs,

wherein said identifying means for identifying said at least two first IDs corresponding to said user ID received by said receiving means makes a query to said communication device by transmitting said at least two first IDs and receives said first IDs chosen from said at least two first IDs,

wherein said generating means generates the schedule for distributing said contents identified by at least one of the second IDs to said other device corresponding to said at least one of said first IDs received by said identifying means, and

wherein said distributing means distributes said contents to said other device corresponding to said at least one of said first IDs received by said identifying means according to said schedule generated by generating means.

⁴ See paragraph [0077] of Kokado.

An advantageous feature of a non-limiting embodiment of Applicants' Claim 3 is that a user A can give a gift (e.g. a license) of the content data to a user B.⁵

Amended Claim 3 is dependent on independent Claim 2 and is thus believed to be patentable for the reasons discussed above. Claim 3 is further believed to be patentable as Kokado does not teach or suggest "distributing means for distributing said contents to said other device corresponding to said first IDs received by said identifying means according to said schedule generated by generating means." Page 4 of the outstanding Office Action asserts that paragraph [0109] of Kokado describes "distributing means for distributing said contents according to said schedule generated by said generating means." However, paragraph [0109] of Kokado only describes that if a new transmission completion time is not earlier than a time limit LT of a reference unit record UR₁, a processing unit 61 changes, in value, a communications circuit flag F_{CIR} of the reference unit record UR₁. Kokado does not describe that a schedule is distributed.

Amended independent Claim 5 recites "supplying means for supplying at least one of said second IDs managed by said second managing means to a communication device making a request for distribution of said contents." Thus, Claim 5 is believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. Amended independent Claim 5 is further believed to be patentable as Kokado fails to teach or suggest "transmitting means for transmitting a schedule for starting to write said contents identified by said at least one of said second IDs to said other device corresponding to said identified first ID." As discussed above, Kokado does not describe distributing a schedule, and does not describe a schedule at all. Thus, Kokado does not describe writing contents to an other device based upon a transmitted schedule.

⁵ See paragraph [0269] of the specification.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent Claim 5 is patentable.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejection of Claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Kokado be withdrawn.

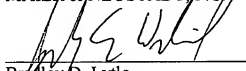
In order to vary the scope of protection recited in the claims, new Claims 10-14 are added. New Claims 10-14 find non-limiting support in the disclosure as originally filed, for example, in original Claims 1, 3, and 7-8.

Therefore, the changes to the claims are not believed to raise a question of new matter.⁶ New Claims 10-14 recite similar features as the features recited in Claims 1-5, and are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, and in light of the above discussion, the pending claims as presented herewith are believed to be in condition for formal allowance, and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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⁶ See MPEP 2163.06 stating that "information contained in any one of the specification, claims or drawings of the application as filed may be added to any other part of the application without introducing new matter."